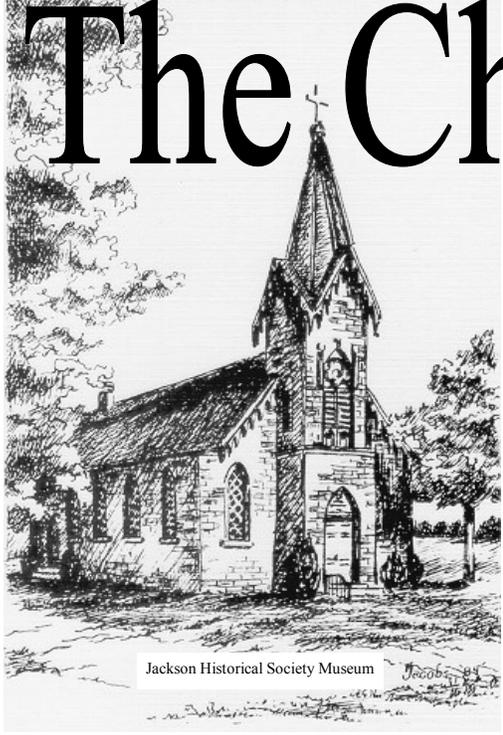


The Church Mouse



Jackson Historical Society Museum

Volume 21 Issue 2 Jackson Historical Society July 2016

LAND PATENTS

At the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783, the new United States of America had a lot of unoccupied land to sell. They had over 270 million acres available East of the Mississippi, not including the original 13 colonies.

The Land Ordinance of 1785 was created to handle the land growth. Public domain lands northwest of the Ohio River were to be surveyed into 36-square mile townships, and sold at no less than \$1 per acre in tracts no smaller than 640 acres. The Ordinance established that legal sale and settlement of the public land could not occur until the land had been surveyed and the survey accepted by the Federal Government.

Sales of surveyed land took place at the office of the Board of Treasury in New York City. Lands indicated on plats were offered for sale to the highest bidders over the minimum price of \$1 per acre. A Land Patent was issued to the buyer conveying ownership of land purchased from the U.S. government to the new owner. The first Land Patent was issued to John Martin on March 4th of 1788 for 640 acres in what is now Belmont County, Ohio.

In 1812, the General Land Office was created as part of the Treasury Department to handle and dispose of public lands. All the land records were now kept in one place.

The Land Act of April 20, 1820, authorized land to be sold for a minimum of \$1.25 per acre and tracts as small as 80 acres. Public lands initially offered for sale by District Land Offices were sold at pre-announced, scheduled public auction. If any land remained unsold, the parcels would be available for purchase at the minimum price on a first-come-first-served basis. The President of the United States signed land patents, giving people title to the land they had purchased.

As new territory was added to the United States, additional land became available for sale and a migration into the new areas began. These new lands were opened up over a period of time and for various reasons.

1803—Louisiana Purchase from France doubled the size of the nation, adding the region drained by the Mississippi River's western tributaries.

1819—Florida acquired by treaty with Spain, redrawing a border of the Louisiana Purchase.

1845—Texas became a State but did not give unoccupied lands to the United States. There are no Federal public lands in Texas.

1846—Oregon Compromise with Great Britain ended joint occupation of the Oregon Country by dividing the region along the 49th Parallel.

1848—Discovery of gold in California. Mexico gave up a vast territory in the Southwest, providing the U.S. with 338 million acres of public

(Land Patents continued on page 2)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your annual **\$15** dues cover a calendar year starting in **January**. The current year for your membership is shown on The Church Mouse address label to the right of the zip code.

Your dues include a subscription to the Church Mouse and help us preserve Jackson history.

JHS MEETINGS TIMES

The Jackson Historical Society meets the 2nd Monday of every other month, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sep/Nov, at 7:00pm.

JHS meetings are held at 1860 Mill Road, Jackson, in our restored, Karl Groth log home. Visitors are welcome.

JHS OFFICERS

- Royal Natzke—President
- Jerry Prochnow—Vice President
- Lenore Kloehn—Treasurer
- Jim Kliese—Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

- JHS Officers, Russ Hanson,
- Elmer Kloehn, and Rob Mielke

(Land Patents continued from page 1)

lands - now California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and parts of New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming.

1850—The United States purchased 75 million acres of land from Texas, part of what is now Arizona and New Mexico.

1853—The United States purchased 19 million acres of land from Mexico with the Gadsden Purchase. This became part of New Mexico and Arizona.

1867—Alaska purchased from Russia, adding 365 million acres of public lands to the United States.

1898—Annexation of Hawaiian Islands by the United States. Since Hawaii had been an independent nation, no public lands were involved. Principal of public land laws extended to the Territory of Alaska.

In the Territory of Wisconsin, surveying of government land into townships began in 1835. Upon completion and acceptance of the survey, settlers and speculators arrived to purchase land from the government. Immigrants arrived in the 1830's and 1840's and purchased land in Town "Tegen." Township 10 North, Range 20 East was incorporated into the Town of Jackson in 1846, two years before Wisconsin became a state.

As the land was purchased from the U.S. Government, Land Patents were issued to the purchasers. The Jackson Historical Society has copies of Land Patents for the Town of Jackson.

Land Patents for the United States can be accessed through a website. Go to <http://glorerecords.blm.gov> and click on *Land Patents* to enter your request. Land Patents can be printed from this website.

THEN 'N NOW

Valentine Koenig arrived in Reisville (Jackson) in the mid 1800's, and bought land for a farm. The farm was successful and remained in the family through many generations. As Reisville grew into Jackson, the farm, located on the south side of State Road 60 east of the central village, was divided and some of the farmland sold. Ruth Metzko, the last family member owner of the Sesquicentennial farm, sold the home and remaining land to Jac Kulwиковski., Jac carefully crafted the old Koenig home into his Coffeyville, Historic Log Coffeehouse, now open. So stop by and take a look at the Historic Log Coffeehouse. You'll be impressed. The coffee's good, too.



Historic Log Coffeehouse



Valentine Koenig farm home

KARL GROTH LOG HOME

During the development of the Wildflower subdivision just to the west of the Jackson Historical Society on Mill Rd., our Karl Groth two-story log home was discovered as part of the existing farm home. It was later moved to our site and restored to become a popular part of the historical society.

In researching Karl Groth, it was determined that he had purchased 80 acres of land from the government in the mid 1800's for his farm. As he had bought the land from the government, he must have received a Land Patent and JHS wanted a copy.

We accessed the site <http://glorerecords.blm.gov> on the internet, entered the known location data and his name, Karl Groth, and got no results. Then, we entered his name as *Carl* Groth. Still no results. Then we tried Charles Groth, and up came the Land Patent. Someone had Anglicized his name. Karl had become Charles. We had our Land Patent!

Lesson learned! When shooting for family genealogical information, it is often better to use a shotgun than a rifle! You'll be surprised what you can bag.

REIS FAMILY VISITS REISVILLE (JACKSON)

About 1848, 27 year old Franz Reis arrived in Jackson from the Hunsrück area of Prussia. Franz worked hard, saved his money, and bought land, eventually accumulating about 400 acres. In the early 1870's, the railroad was looking for a route through the area for their rail line. Franz sold the railroad a right-of-way across his land and, more importantly, gave the railroad land for a depot, which gave them a

(Reis continued on page 4)

THE COMMUNITIES OF KEOWN & SALTER—IRISH IMMIGANTS IN JACKSON

In the early 1800's, migration into the Northwest Territory began to progress as lands were surveyed into territories and states. Wisconsin was initially a distant frontier with small numbers of French, English, Americans, and American Indians residing here. By the mid 1800's, most Indians had been induced to cede their lands to the federal government, opening the door to increased European emigration.

Between 1836 and 1850, Wisconsin's population increased from 11,000 to over 305,000. Some settlers emigrated from the settled eastern states, while others came from Europe. Immigrants first tended to settle in the southern part of Wisconsin. Economic, social, and religious changes in Europe, as well as natural disasters such as the potato blight in Ireland, increased emigration from that area. By 1850, one-third of the state's population was foreign-born.

Of the more than 100,000 foreign-born Wisconsinites in 1850, only 48,000 could claim English as their native language. Nearly one-half of these English speakers were Irish. Of the non-English speaking immigrants, the Germans were by far the most numerous. Norwegians constituted the second largest group, followed closely by French Canadians.

The Town of Jackson was incorporated in the Territory of Wisconsin on January 21st, 1846. Earlier, in 1843, land had been purchased and registered by John McDonald, Peter Devereau, and John Kinney. By 1845, land entries had increased to 149. The first meeting of the elected Town Board was held on April 7th, 1846.

As Jackson grew in the mid 1800's, two crossroads communities were established that were named for the Irish owners of surrounding lands, Keown (Keown's Corners) and Salter (Salter's Corners).

Keown's Corners was established at the intersection of CTH. NN (formerly STH 143) and Maple Road. The corner was named for the first settler, Patrick Keown. He had lived with his parents and two sisters in Canada, and when his parents returned to Ireland, emigrated to Wisconsin. He purchased 120 acres of government land in Sections 30 and 31 in the Town of Trenton.

Across the road in sections 4 and 5 in the Town of Jackson, much government land was being sold to the likes of Tutwiler, Robbins, Fullerton, McKenzie, Bower, Fuller, Sperry and Fink. Some of the land was bought on speculation for future resale, while many of these Irish immigrants considered Jackson their home and began clearing the land for farming. As the farms became productive commercial services were needed and the community was established. The area continued to grow to include a cheese factory, built by Charles Quade, a blacksmith shop, a sawmill, and the Casper and Schwinn general store, dance hall, saloon, and the Keown post office.



Casper & Schwinn General Store



CTH NN Looking East to general store



Cheese factory in Keown

In 1846, Mrs. Mary Salter emigrated to Washington County with six of her children, including sons Frank and Robert and four of Robert and Jane Salter's children. Mary bought land south of Germantown.

Frank (Francis) and Robert, purchased land in Jackson. Frank bought 240 acres in sections 2 and 3. Robert bought 240 acres in section 1 and later added another 200 acres. Robert went on to become a Town of Jackson Supervisor and served a term in the Wisconsin Legislature.

Other Irish immigrants with names like Ruddy, Osborn, Byrnes, Sullivan, Harper, Day, Brophy, Morgan, Lewis, McNeil Mahoney, and O'Connel purchased land from the U. S. Government., again some for speculation and later resale, but many put down roots, became citizens of the United States, and called Jackson home.

As the land was cleared and the farms became productive, commercial services were needed. A general

(Irish continued on page 4)



(Irish continued from page 3)

store, tavern, and dance hall was constructed, along with a blacksmith shop, cheese factory, church and school. The community of Salter was established in Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, at the intersection of Pleasant Valley Road and Country Aire Drive (CTH M). To serve the growing community, the Salter post office was established in the store.

In 1882, the general store and tavern, located on the S.E. corner, was owned by Charles Stauske. In 1909, son Henry Stauske took over. And ran it until 1937. The area became known as Stauske's Corners. Later it was sold to Ar-

rnold Hafemann and then in 1946 to the Henry Lemke. Today it is the Jailhouse Restaurant. It is the oldest of the structures still remaining in Salter.

Schools arrived



Stauske General Store, saloon & dance hall

in Salter in 1852 with the construction of a log structure, followed by a white frame school in 1894. Later, Sunnyside School District #1 was constructed north of Pleasant Valley Rd. on the east side of Country Aire Dr.

Many of the Irish living in the Salter area were protestant and attended a Methodist Church which was located just west of Salter on Pleasant Valley Rd. The first Catholic church built in Jackson was St. Beatrice. However, it was inconveniently located for many members, so the parishioners built St. Mary's church on the NW corner of the Salter crossroads. It was later torn down and the bricks used to construct the house a bit north on the same corner. The St. Mary's Cemetery is east of Salter on the north side of Pleasant Valley Rd. It has monuments of many early Irish settlers.

Much of the land purchased in both the Keown and Salter areas of Jackson was for speculation. Early on, U. S. Government land was very inexpensive and available for purchase. Land acquired for speculation could be sold later for profit, and many did, moving on to the next government land being surveyed into towns and made available for purchase. A look at subsequent plat maps of Jackson show that even though some Irish farmers made their homes here, many sold their land and moved on to areas further west. Much of the Irish owned land in Jackson was resold to German immigrants or farmers.



Salter—Stauske General Store & St. Mary's Church



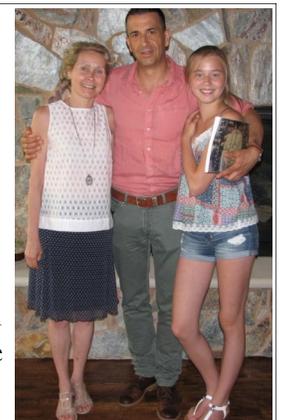
Stauske General Store & post office in Salter

(Reis continued from page 2)

reason to stop in Reisville (Jackson). Until the railroad arrived in Reisville, the community was little different than several other small communities in the Town of Jackson. With the arrival of the railroad, businesses were developed and the community began to grow. In 1873, Franz Reis built a general store and saloon and a grain elevator. Other businesses followed. In 1912, the community of Reisville was incorporated into the Village of Jackson.

Volker Reis and his family arrived from Europe in mid July for a visit to Reisville (Jackson). Volker is a descendant of Franz Reis Sr. and is active in maintaining the family history. They were greeted by many Reis "cousins" including Bob O'Keane and Jack Reis. A family get-together and an area tour ending in Jackson's new *Historic Log Coffeehouse* helped the Reis family enjoy their visit.

A Reis family history is online at <http://reisofhunsruckandwisconsin.blogspot.com> .



Eija, Volker, & Annika Reis



BEV HETZEL—JACKSON'S MILITARY HISTORIAN, GENEALOGIST & AUTHOR

Over the years you've read articles in the Church Mouse about area veterans of the Civil War, World War I, World War II, etc. As I've researched these articles and the people involved, I have often turned to Bev Hetzel for many of the facts and much of the detail in those articles. Bev is a veritable encyclopedia of area veterans and their military service.

Bev was born and grew up on a farm in Jackson, the daughter of Norman and Alma Oelhafen. She attended Maple Lawn School, St. John's Lutheran School in West Bend, West Bend High School, Dodge County Teacher's College, and earned her BS degree in Education at Oshkosh State University. She taught school for 34 years. Married in 1966 to Joe Hetzel, she has three children and eight grandchildren.

In her early 20's, she became interested in genealogy and local history. Her interest in veterans began as a young person, when she discovered that her uncle had been aboard the U.S.S. Arizona and later transferred to the Airship Akron, on which he was killed when it was struck by lightning over the Atlantic Ocean.

In the 1980's and 1990's, Bev compiled cemetery information for Washington and surrounding counties. This led to inquiries about Civil War veterans, so she began collecting obits, pictures, and other information about these veterans. She compiled the Civil War records for our veterans in Madison. After 15 years of collecting information she wrote a book on Washington County Civil War Veterans. She then went on to compile information on the casualties of Washington County Veterans from World War I through the current wars just ended. She has completed a nine volume set of Washington County World War I veterans and has just completed a nineteen volume set of Washington County World War II veterans.

Bev's writings include *Civil War Veterans Living In Juneau County 1895; Fond du Lac County 1885; Milwaukee 1885; Madison 1885; Kenosha County 1885; Portage County 1883; Iowa County 1885; Washington County 1883; and Waukesha County 1885*. She's also written *Civil War Veterans Buried in Marietta Georgia National Cemetery; Murfreesboro National Cemetery; and Shiloh National Cemetery*.

For WWI, she's written *World War I Casualties Washington County WI; Ozaukee County WI; Kenosha County WI; and Fond du Lac County WI*, and *World War I Veterans Serving in the 331st Field Artillery*.

Additional writings include *Wisconsin Spanish American Soldiers Serving in 1-4 Regiments and Light Artillery, World War II 128th Infantry Band, Washington County Veterans Buried in SE Wisconsin Veteran Cemetery 2003-2015—Updated Each Year, Operation Iraqi Freedom Casualties Wisconsin, and Afghanistan War Casualties Wisconsin*.

Many of these volumes are available for research in the West Bend Community Memorial Library.

Should you, as I, have had a need for information on our veterans, your answer is probably waiting for you in one of Bev's volumes at the library. Thank you, Bev, for identifying the many veterans who have served us so well.

JHS SECRETARY RETIRING

Jim Kliese, Jackson Historical Society's Secretary for many years, is retiring from the position at the end of 2016. We will miss having this outstanding member as Secretary. Officers and members of the society thank you for a job well done. Thanks, Jim.

MARTH ITEMS DONATED

We wish to recognize and thank Paul and Elvira Brunqwell for their donation of many Marth family pictures and other Marth family memorabilia. Edwin Marth, Elvira's father, and other Marth family members were active in the Immanuel Lutheran Church, now the Jackson Historical Society.

Paul and Elvira also donated many items for our Raspberry Festival Silent Auction for 2016.

Thanks for your generosity.

JHS SECRETARY NEEDED

With Jim Kliese retiring as JHS Secretary at the end of 2016, we are looking for a new member interested in joining us and accepting the position of JHS Secretary.

If this sounds interesting, please contact Royal Natzke, at rdnatzke@yahoo.com. Thanks.

JHS VISITORS

Corinne Scheif and Dr. Volker Shier paid a visit to JHS. On Saturday, the 18th of June. Royal Natzke and Russ Hanson hosted the visit.

Corinne is a Doctor of art history, while Dr. Shier has a PHD in musicology and is an avid camera collector. Both were interested in local genealogy and history and toured the society. We enjoyed their visit.

AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES EVENTS

RICHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY September 17th & 18th, Richfield historical Park, 18th Annual Thresheree. Please Contact www.richfieldhistoricalsociety.org for more information on events and meetings.

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY September 24th & 25th, Annual Germantown Hunsrucker Oktoberfest at Dheinsville Settlement Park & Museum. Contact the Germantown Historical Society at germantownhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

POMMERSCHER VEREIN FREISTADT September 9th, 7:00pm, Lindenwood Community Center, Pomeranian Tours Remembered, For information and events, Contact—pommerscher.org

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY August 11th, 9-12am, Pioneer Kids Day: Down on the Farm @ History Center of Washington Cty. August 18th, 12-2pm, Father Rehr's Rectory & Exhibit Open @ St. Agnes Historic Convent & School. September 7th—October 7th, all day, Fur, Feathers, and Fidelity a Traveling Exhibit @ Old Courthouse Museum. September 20th @ 6:30-7:30pm, Old Courthouse Museum. Pioneer Church Records of Jackson Speak. Please contact WCHS at historyisfun.com for more information.



The Editor welcomes comments on the newsletter. Please mail all suggestions for articles, etc., to The Church Mouse, 1921 State Road 60, Jackson, WI 53037, or phone (262) 677-3888, or e-mail jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net. Russ Hanson, Editor

RASPBERRY FESTIVAL 2016

Join Us for Raspberry Festival 2016 and enjoy our great food. Amish baked raspberry pie alamide with Honey Grove *real* Ice Cream. Wow! Hot dogs and Brats, hot buttered sweet corn. Come for lunch and stay for the entertainment.

See brooms made. Watch a spinning wheel in action. Is das nicht ein schnitzelbank? Ja das ist ein schnitzelbank! Remember how clothes were washed. Help saw some logs with a crosscut saw.

New this year will be the addition of an operating ham radio station. Learn the long history of ham radio and talk with our operators. Learn how it springs to action when there is an emergency to keep us safe.

We'll have vendors with fresh vegetables, and honey to buy. And vendors with other products to show, sample and sell.

Of course our annual silent auction will be bigger than ever this year with a good selection of children's toys, etc.

Classes will again be held in our one-room school to let children have that experience.

Antique cars, music, and visiting with friends help pass the sunny afternoon. Enjoy!

Tours of the Karl Groth two-



16th Annual
RASPBERRY FESTIVAL
Sunday, September 11, 2016, 12-4 PM
JACKSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY—1860 MILL RD.

Driving , at round-about take Division Rd. SOUTH off Hwy. 60 to Mill Rd.- turn WEST to festival site. Or, take Maple Rd. SOUTH off Hwy. 60 to Mill Rd.- turn EAST to festival site. Parking area in rear.

SERVING OUR EXCELLENT AMISH MADE RASPBERRY PIE



HONEY GROVE ICE CREAM



HONEY & HONEY PRODUCTS

FARM FRESH PRODUCE

HOT DOGS & BRATS



HOT BUTTERED SWEET CORN



FRESH RASPBERRY PIE

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILES



HAM RADIO STATION ON AIR



HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES & CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS

SILENT AUCTION 12:30 - 3:30PM

TOUR OUR RESTORED 1850'S KARL GROTH LOG HOME AND VISIT OUR MUSEUM OF JACKSON HISTORY

ATTEND A CLASS IN SESSION IN OUR ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE

PLAN TO JOIN US FOR THIS ANNUAL EVENT OF THE JACKSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



story log home and our JHS Museum will give you a taste of our local history. So much to do and only the afternoon to do it in. Join us!